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Niagara News

INFORMING NIAGARA COLLEGE

VOL. 24 NO. 9 FREE Friday, Jan. 28, 1994

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'SAC'KED

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Four members of Niagara College's Student Administrative Council were discharged from office Tuesday afternoon.

Newly-appointed president Cris Margeson, vice-president social Jeremy Lowe, vice-president external Leanne Newton and student representative Matthew Lococo were relieved of their Student Administrative Council duties.

"This was a major decision today. We lost SAC. We lost student council," said Newton.

A SAC executive meeting held with Niagara College's board of directors resolved the students failed to adhere to proper academic status, as outlined in the Student Administrative Council Constitution.

In a 6-4 decision, Margeson, Lowe and Newton were discharged for failure to maintain a 65 per cent grade average needed in order for them to remain on council.

Lococo was removed without opposition because his current participation in co-op studies does not permit him to be seated on council.

This is the latest blow to SAC, which has also seen November's resignation of vice-president social Brad Billard, and this month's resignation of president Kristen Sorensen.

The board of directors appointed vice-president athletics Frank Keltos to president and vice-president internal Trevor Obee to executive vice-president. Jeff Poulin and Kerrie Cooper remain student representatives. The board is responsible for overseeing changes in SAC policies, practices and constitutional amendments.

Margeson argued he had no understanding that a 65 per cent average was necessary to remain on council.

Newton said she felt consideration should have been given to non-constitutional aspects, such as council performance.

"This should be looked at from a different angle, not just straight ahead," she said.

Brigitte Chiki, Niagara College counselling co-ordinator, said she didn't recall when the board has disregarded the academic standing criteria.

All three SAC student representatives voted in favor of removing the three executive SAC members. Lococo was dismissed after a motion presented by Obee, who said if Margeson, Lowe and Newton were expelled due to constitutional guidelines so should Lococo, based on his conflict.

Carol Boettcher, college vice-president of student life and human resources, expressed appreciation towards SAC in addressing the board of directors.

'Niagara is a vicious political cycle...' Margeson

"This is an act based on the constitution and not a reflection of performance," she said. The board agreed discharged executive members would be paid till today, and said it hoped these students would remain available to ensure an orderly transition of office.

Opinions by SAC members were expressed at a press conference after the meeting.

"The outcome wasn't what everyone expected, but in a way it was," said Newton.

"I see (the decision) as a technicality from the constitution of SAC that had to be put through. I think it's fair you should abide by the constitution," she said, but added the decision should also have been evaluated on performance and from input from program co-ordinators.

"I would have resigned from this position had it not turned out the way it did," Newton said. Numerous deliberations in executive and private meetings during the past two months have caused "emotional stress" for Newton. "We were looking into a lot of things we didn't know existed."

Newton said SAC was clouded with misinformation and roles were not properly defined when she took office. She said she's "very mad" technicalities weren't explained earlier.

"SAC was, in fact, most definitely, an individualized student council."

Margeson, who describes the current situation as "chaos," said council started to fall apart when "in camera" sessions were held investigating Sorensen's responsibilities. He said student representatives were excluded from these meetings — contrary to proper procedure, Margeson believed this was appropriate — and from that point they have been opposed to council operations.

"They took everything personal," said Lowe, who failed to get their votes.

Lowe said he was amazed a board, with some members he has not met, has the power to oust him from council. He said he will be back next year to reclaim his position.

Newton said she will look into being a student representative — no grade average is specified for the role.

"I'm glad it's over. I don't think everything that's run in this corporation is done correctly," she said. "A lot of amendments will be made to the constitution if I have anything to do with it."

Margeson said he found it hard to believe he would require a 65 per cent average to stay on council when a 60 is the highest possible grade required by some courses to pass. The constitution states a member "may be removed" if grades fall below 65.

Boettcher said the board has "consistently implemented that part of the constitution. It's certainly been our past practice." In part, SAC members are to be academic role models, she said. The 65 per cent clause acts as a "safety net".

Poulin said there is a need to make changes to the constitution to ensure these problems won't arise again.

"It was a very poor decision made by the board of directors," said Obee. "A large part was overlooked to fulfill one part of the constitution."

"It was fair to the point of the constitution," said Keltos, "And I wish it didn't have to come down to that but it did."

"Niagara is a vicious political cycle," Margeson said. "The hand of the college is over this corporation, and it's wrong. The board has no idea of repercussions (the vote will have). I know some of the votes were personal."

The vote "may feel personal... but it is not personal," said Boettcher. "I don't think it was unfair. I think it was a sad result."

Newton said she doesn't feel the presidency should be held by a former vice-president athletics, but noted of the remaining members, Keltos has the most council experience.

Margeson said because Keltos is no longer vice-president athletics, he has no obligation to run WinterCourse activities next month.

"I hope the students think out loud more than anything," Margeson said of the expected student reaction to SAC's collapse.

Obee issued a formal SAC press release Wednesday.

"We, the Student Administrative Council feel the removal of Jeremy Lowe, Cris Margeson and Leanne Newton from their respective positions on council was an error of judgment on the part of the SAC board of directors. The decision was enforced through a vague portion of our constitution. The decision in no way reflects the best interests of the student body or the students removed from council, nor does it reflect the best interests of the corporation when the repercussions of that decision are assessed.

"A decision has been made, however, and it is the duty of the remainder of those on council to pick up the pieces and gather the reigns as we carry on with the rest of the semester. It is still the Student Administrative Council's goal to pursue the betterment of student life in any way we can. SAC is still dedicated to that goal despite the major blow we were given today."

There may be more to the story than council is willing to relate.

"I'd love to be able to name names but I don't think it's appropriate right now," Newton said. "It could blow up worse than it is now."

Newton declined to provide names, stating: "I'm a better person..."

Margeson has also alleged wrongdoing by others but until both sides can be reached for comment the investigation will be put on hold.

A SAC meeting is scheduled for 1:30 this afternoon with the board of directors to fill vacant positions.

And then there were two...

Frank Keltos

Trevor Obee

Monument to honor slain women

By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

A national design competition has been launched in Vancouver, B.C, called the Women's Monument Project.

The Women's Monument "is to provide a focus for healing and serve as an intangible symbol of the imperative to end violence against women," says a recent press release from the project.

The project hopes to create a permanent monument in Vancouver which will be dedicated to all women who have been murdered by men. The Monument will also name the 14 women killed in Montreal on Dec. 6, 1989.

The Monument will stand in Thornton Park, in the heart of Vancouver and near the renovated CN station.

Committee members say the design should be suited to it's location, "provide a place for large gatherings, allow for quiet contemplation, and promote dignity and respect for the lives of women."

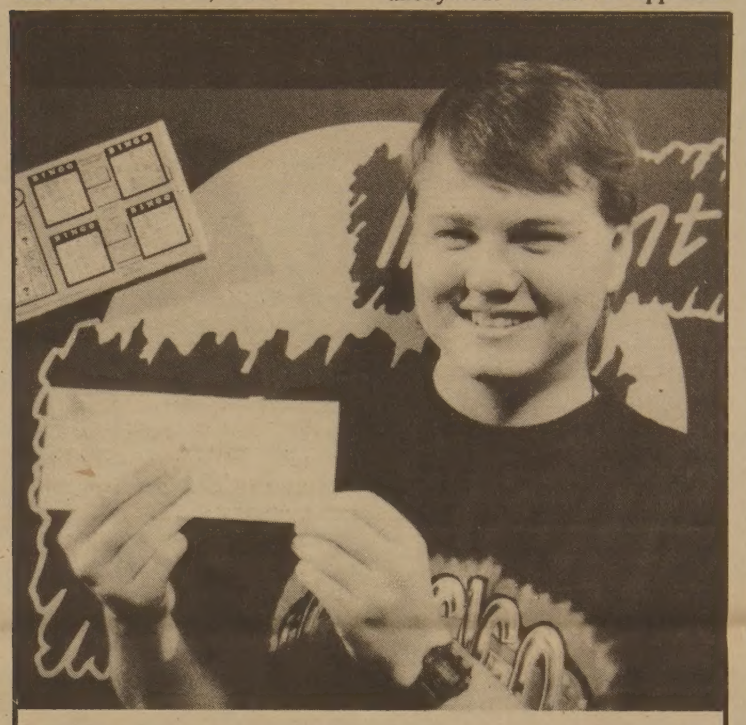
The committee has launched a nation-wide competition, open to women. "It is only fitting that the monument be built by women."

The competition, which will be professionally judged , will take an anonymous format. All applicant names will be made unavailable to jury members.

Four to five finalists will be chosen by early summer, each being paid $2,500 to complete a detailed proposal. A final decision will be made this fall, with the artist to receive a commission to complete the monument.

"We're hoping to be amazed," said committee member Chris McDowell.

For an application package, send a self-addressed stamped oversize envelope to: The Women's Monument Project, c/o Capilano College, 2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, B.C., V7J 3H5.



Niagara's bingo winner

Kris Algra, a part-time student in the Computer Electrical Electronic Technology program at Niagara College, won $10,000 playing INSTANT BINGO. He plans to pay off his student loan and invest the rest. The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven on Lake Street in St. Catharines.

Contributed photo

Volunteers needed

By KERI REED
Staff Writer

Conversation partners are needed to meet with international students for one hour a week until the end of April.

Susan Vandenboom, co-ordinator of the English as a Second Language Program said students interested in volunteering would meet one of 35 international students over lunch or in After Hours.

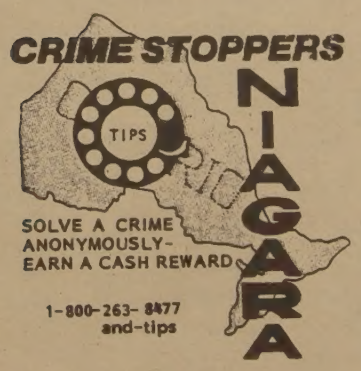
Vandenboom said the project would benefit both the volunteer and the international student.

"International students have a difficult time finding Canadian friends," Vandenboom said.

Becoming a conversation partner will allow an international student to improve English skills and learn Canadian culture.

Students interested in volunteering can telephone Susan Vandenboom any day between 8:30 and 9 a.m. or Mondays after 4 p.m. at 735-2211 ext. 7507.

Crime Stoppers accomplishments



During January, which is recognized internationally as Crime Stoppers Month, Niagara Crime Stoppers would like to take the time to recap some of the accomplishments of 1993.

In the past year, Niagara's program received 552 tips from the public. These calls produced the following results: 47 arrests, 100 cases cleared, and $460,590 in narcotics seized.

In September 1993, Niagara's program was presented with two awards from Crime Stoppers International. A first place Newsprint Award was received for a local story and a second place Productivity Award was received for most improved program (300,000 to 600,000 population).

Niagara Crime Stoppers would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who donated money and services to the program during the past year.

Crime Stoppers is a registered non-profit charitable organization and without ongoing community support the program would not continue.

Remember, if you have any information regarding any crime call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477, that's 1-800-AND-TIPS to be eligible for a cash award up to $1,000. In all cases you will not have to reveal your identity.

The Niagara Regional Police in co-operation with Crime Stoppers Niagara Inc. writes this column to help combat crime. A citizen board administers the local program. Reward money is raised through tax-deductible donations and cheques may be sent to Crime Stoppers of Niagara Inc., P.O. Box 1086, St. Catharines, Ont. L2R 7A3.

Kiss the Flame

KISS THE FLAME
NIAGARA COLLEGE

By Heather D. Hodgson
Law and Security Administration Program
Special to Niagara News

Many agencies in communities across Ontario offer drug/alcohol education. Pharmacists, the Addiction Research Foundation, public health nurses, police and other community-minded organizations provide lectures, assist in developing forums and in some cases offer ongoing programs in elementary and secondary schools.

Since 1981, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Drug Abuse Committee has been involved in the development and implementation of drug/alcohol awareness programs for schools and community groups. Later, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Drug Abuse Committee developed education modules and, in co-operation with community and corporate sponsors, distributed them to all schools in Canada.

Initially, safety education (police) officers added drug education in their traffic and personal safety packages. Children in Grades 4 to 10 were provided with information from officers (grades varied from community to community depending on personnel availability.)

In 1989, the Canadian Police College initiated a training session for police entitled *Drug Abuse Training Officers Course.* Offered in both French and English, the course provided officers with information and special skills required for teaching young people.

In time, drug enforcement units and safety education units shared resources and information to provide drug education officers to schools. In some areas, secondary students receive presentations on alcohol abuse and illicit and prescription drugs on a regular basis.

In addition, school and community presentations are provided by police on impaired driving. Individual class sessions, mock trials/inquests, forums, drug/alcohol free dances and other events are part of the overall approach.

With the new Community Policing Committees, community representatives play an active role in decisions regarding their needs and how the police can best serve these needs. Community policing provides a different method of reducing crime. In addition to the more traditional reactive approach where officers answer calls for service, a "proactive" side of policing allows officers to stay in communities and work with them to prevent crime.

An Ontario case study provides insight into community policing: In Halton there was a problem in a high rise apartment complex. There was a high break, enter and theft rate, as well as a great deal of vandalism (mischief). The incidents of crime spilled over into surrounding neighborhoods.

A committee was formed of residents, police, local business people, media people, etc. The problems were discussed and an approach developed. Crime prevention tactics of delivering crime proofing pamphlets, articles in local newspapers and cable television information spots, neighborhood watch activities and safety education in local schools were accompanied by a unique community policing approach. An apartment complex was turned into a "police office".

Twenty-four hours a day teams of officers used the office as a base. They canvassed residents, assisted in cleaning up garbage, got local merchants to donate paint and supplies. In short, they became part of the community. The result? All reported incidents of crime, including substance abuse were reduced.

All of these services drain resources. With financial cuts from governments police agencies are caught in the same struggles as the rest of society. As budgets shrink, they are attempting to "do more with less". Life and death situations remain priority.

Only time will tell the long term results of the budget cuts. It is known that only when enforcement, education and community support operate together is effective policing achieved.

Niagara News

News tips? Photo reprints? Call Ext. 7753

Agreement opens doors of education

By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

A co-ordination of high school curricula and college programs has been created to help ease students into a college education.

Niagara College, Mohawk College in Hamilton and the Lincoln County Board of Education recently signed the Tripartite Articulation Agreement.

The three institutions came together at the Lincoln County Education Centre in St. Catharines for a luncheon to formally sign the agreement on Jan. 20.

Niagara College President John Saso, Mohawk President Paul Byrne and Lincoln County Director of Education and Secretary Bill McLean all took their turn at putting pen to paper to make the agreement official. Also on hand from Niagara College were David Schleich, vice-president, academic; Lyn Russo, director of marketing and communications; Brian Keppy, co-ordinator of general education, PLA facilitator; and Larry Taylor, director of media and design.

The agreement is a process to formally link secondary and college programs that will help the student better prepare and open more doors of education.

Articulation allows secondary school students to take high school courses that will better prepare them for their chosen college program.

Niagara College President John Saso (left), Lincoln County Director of Education Bill McLean (centre), and Mohawk College President Paul Byrne (right) sign the articulation agreement which unite the three educational institutions.

Photo by Keri Reed

"It's a pleasure for Niagara College to sign the agreement. The future has to do with a seamless education and we're (Niagara College) dedicated to making education a living for everyone," said Saso.

Mohawk President Byrne reiterated what Saso commented on. "We're moving into partnerships. We're delighted to be a part of articulation and I see it as a service to not only the students, but to the community as well," he said.

McLean, of the Lincoln County Board of Education, praised both the post-secondary institutions involved.

"It's been a pleasure working with everyone. These are two of the finest post-secondary colleges in Canada," he said. He also noted that the students will be the ultimate benefactors of the agreement.

The benefits students will see include:

—a more guided focus as they proceed through secondary school.

—an improved focus for general level students on post-secondary opportunities.

—ensured coverage of prerequisite content for related college programs.

—assistance in effectively accessing career paths for the future.

The agreement also favors both high school and post-secondary staff members involved. Enhanced opportunities for staff include:

—allows for professional development opportunities through curriculum exchange.

—enables teachers to motivate students and direct them toward better career choices by refining curricula.

—examines teaching and evaluate methodologies.

The agreement, which took about eight months to pull together "has been very rewarding for all parties involved," said Mae Denby, superintendant of education-curriculum at the Lincoln County Board of Education.

Articulation agreements with the Lincoln County Board of Education include Business Studies, Hospitality and Tourism, and Horticulture.

The future appears bright for articulation at Niagara College, as many universities have also entered into agreements with the college.

Saso says there is still room to grow. "We want to go forward with this. We see this agreement (with the Lincoln County Board of Education) as a beginning," he said.

Master Plan requesting funds

By ANDREA SNIDER
Staff Writer

College President John Saso met with Minister of Education and Training Dave Cooke on Jan. 13, to discuss Niagara College's jobsOntario program and to show Cooke why the college desperately needs funding for its proposed "Master Plan."

"We gave him an extensive tour of the St. Catharines campus building to show him it's not suitable for educational purposes," Saso said. Saso said he felt Cooke really "endorsed and understood" the need for a new campus after his tour of the Wellandvale campus.

"He has been kept informed about our plans and we showed him the new proposed campus on Taylor Road in Niagara-on-the-Lake."

Presently the students attending classes at the Horticultural Centre, the Mack Nursing Centre and the Futures Program at the Foster Wheeler building are at capacity.

Saso says he "wants all students to be together to expand college life," and to clear up many of the parking disasters taking place because of space.

"Right now, we are waiting for money—$32 million," Saso says, "the preliminary plans are done and the property is secured."

The plans for the money include the acquisition of the 50-acre site and the construction of the campus.

Saso says Niagara College has some of the "worst facilities in the province, but in four or five years we hope to have one of the best."

Asked what is keeping the Minister from approving the plan, Saso said he expects that Cooke is waiting for the announcement of the federal budget before deciding how to allocate government monies.

Faculty members sitting on their duffs

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

"You get off your duff," was College Council's vice-chair, Mary Lou Eden's advice for faculty members who don't attend College Council meetings.

Eden's comment came at the Wednesday, Jan. 19 council meeting in St. Catharines when council members discussed low faculty membership. Eight of 16 faculty members have been elected to council in their constituent groups but "four of us usually show up," said council member Terry Mason.

Mason asked the council executive what the union was doing to fill vacant faculty seats. Eden replied Joan Hastings-Dove, president Local 242 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, has "indicated that the union is tired of arm-twisting to get faculty out for College Council."

Eden said there were several reasons for faculty's apathy towards College Council. "Increased workloads is one reason," she said. "People are feeling a little bit put upon, but the college doesn't ask you to do it (attend College Council). Your union says shall we do this? Is this a good thing? So we agree and say yes. Well, having agreed that it's a good thing you don't sit on your hands. You get off your duff and you do something about it."

Chair Ron Mottola said all council members have to do "their bit" and recruit people. Membership chair Bob Baddeley said he agreed with Mottola and added, "The key lies with the faculty themselves."

College Council is an "advisory body to the president on college related issues," states the council's constitution. "The council is intended to promote communication and consultation within the college community by providing an open forum for the discussion of significant college issues."

Other than one meeting a year in St. Catharines and one in Niagara Falls, College Council meets in the staff dining room in the Black Walnut Building at the Welland campus. Meetings are at 3 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month.

Need help?

By KERI REED
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Health Centre provides students with a large range of services.

The Welland campus Health Centre, located across from the mini-cafeteria in Lundy 20, is open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The services provided include health counselling on birth control, stress, nutrition, weight loss, and sexually transmitted diseases. Over-the-counter drugs are available, as well as different immunizations.

A doctor from the Welland General Hospital is available one half morning a week. For an appointment students are able to call the Health Centre at 735-2211 ext. 7635.

Discount for students

Another business is willing to give college students a 10 per cent discount.

Larry Naftulin, of the Niagara College Foundation, said Best Western Rose City Suites, at 300 Prince Charles Dr., Welland, will give students the discount.

EDITORIAL PAGE

NBA challenges Pro-Line betting

It is no longer a safe bet Toronto will have a professional basketball team in the near future.

Pro-Line, the sports betting lottery game run by the provincial government, and the National Basketball Association apparently do not mix. Premier Bob Rae is standing firm in his position to keep the sports lottery operational and not bow to the demands of the NBA to remove basketball from the ticket.

Now there is a problem. NBA Commissioner David Stern, in his infinite morality, can't possibly allow the image of the NBA to be tarnished by gambling.

Or is it the fact the NBA is not getting a cut of the profits from the lottery? If that is the underlying issue in all of this, then by all means the NBA should get a percentage of the earnings. After all, people outside their organization are profiting from their product.

Others suggest the NBA would never allow betting on any of its contests even if they received money from those wagers. Governments around North America are realizing the tax profits from sports betting.

If New York State implements a sports lottery will Commisioner Stern take the Knicks out of the NBA?

Gregory Kelly

Sheridan College drops English

Today, jobs require a high degree of literacy. Effective analytical and communication skills are essential in most industries; skills obtained through a broader-based education.

Debate over required English and humanity courses in specific diploma programs at Oakville's Sheridan College, however, resulted in a decision last December to disband its English department.

Technology instructors feel training for a vocation doesn't necessitate scheduling literature and humanity courses in an already full technical schedule.

Sheridan's 45 full-time English faculty will be dispersed among science and technology, arts, business and health sciences departments. Approval by these departments' deans will be required for English or humanity courses to be incorporated in programs.

It's unbelievable a college, where the average incoming student is reading at a Grade 9 or 10 level, could consider exempting students from college English.

Niagara College students must take an English course in each year of a two-year program. Students will be required to take a humanities or English course in each term of all college programs beginning this Fall as recommended by a government-appointed task force.

English may provide unwanted stress in a student's life, but the benefits are infinite. Articulation is key to effective communication — your survival in today's competitive workforce.

Diana Berardi

Library here to serve

By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

Patricia Labonte says Niagara College's librarians are always striving to serve students better.

"The fact is that with customer service, you can never let down. You have to give 100 to 105 per cent," said Labonte, Niagara College's head librarian. She oversees the operations of the college's five libraries.

The libraries are located at the Welland and St. Catharines campuses, the Nursing Centre and the Horticultural Centre (both in St. Catharines), and the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls.

Labonte describes the library's system of notifying students of overdue materials as "a student policy." When a student has overdue materials from the library, notices are sent to the student's residence as a reminder. The late fee for overdue materials is 25 cents per day. The library gives a three-day grace period, during which the student may return the material without charge. If the student returns the item after the grace period, the fine is cut in half.

"The fines aren't meant to be a revenue generator," she said. "I think the students are up against an awful lot. I think we know the constraints students are under and we sympathise with them."

Labonte says the notices are not meant to be harassment. She says they are sent out to "let students know there may be discrepencies between what we have on record and what they have."

"Our intent is not to have overdue books. We've had some positive comments on this (system). The student says, 'Thanks for letting me know.'"

She likes the idea of a 'secret borrower', where a person would evaluate the library and its services while borrowing material, and says it is "an interesting concept."

On Labonte's desk is a favorite cartoon of hers, showing a picture of Dennis the Menace. It reads, "A little progress every day... adds up to big progress." She says it's one of the ideas she follows.

"It's not our philosophy or our *intention to do anything but the* best we can," she said. "We are constantly remembering that we have to do better than our best."

Cold affects council

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

The College Council meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 19 turned out to be "just a group of people sitting around gabbing," said Willard Wright, a Niagara College economics instructor.

College Council was unable to reach a quorum — a minimum number of council members required to make the meeting official. This year's College Council needs at least 17 members to have a quorum because 50 per cent of council's 34 members are required to attend.

Twelve members attended Wednesday's meeting at the St. Catharines campus "primarily because of the weather and partially because of the change in location," said Ron Mottola, council chair.

"I am disappointed," said Mottola. "We, as a council, are only as strong as the members. If we don't have the people here we can't do anything."

Mottola said he did not expect a great turnout because of the cold weather and because the meeting is normally in Welland but he added, "We have a responsibility. We choose to be on this council so we should make every effort to be here."

Agenda items for the meeting were discussed but could not be voted on. They will be addressed at the next council meeting on Feb. 16 in the staff lounge on Welland campus.

Niagara News

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Letter policy

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our letters to the Editor section. All letters must be received on the Thursday before publication week. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only. All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Niagara College, P.O. Box 1005, Woodlawn Road, Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2.

Horticulture show springs into Hamilton

By DONNA DOLYNSKY
Staff Writer

The Arctic conditions on Tuesday morning quickly evaporated when I spotted a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and followed him up to the second level of Copps Coliseum in Hamilton where Landscape Ontario held Canada's largest Horticulture Trade Show on Jan. 18, 19 and 20.

My eyes filled with the many displays of colored patio stones, planters, bird feeders and garden tools.

Carefully inspecting each booth, I was quickly reminded of only three months left until we delve into the dirt once again.

Displays ranged from top-quality playground equipment, that sells for about $30,000 fully assembled or planter boxes made from steel slag and recycled tires to large farm and landscape equipment such as tractors, paving stone and brick installers, backhoes and lawnmowers.

Casey van Maris proudly stood beside his partner's latest invention - a revised version of a soil restoring aeration device which sells complete for about $5,100 (not including taxes).

Assembled miniature outdoor running ponds won my heart. Meticulously lit up and decorated with handcrafted birds, authentic plants and potted trees generated a welcoming warmth of spring.

Ron Gonsalves carefully arranged his flower bulb collection. Blooming potted miniature purple irises and sweet smelling white crocuses were splashed throughout the booth. He said his family-owned business, since 1928, collect and deal bulbs from Holland, Belgium, Israel, United States, England and soon Thailand.

While strolling along the aisle, I noticed a woman standing in her booth with a huge supply of 12-inch plastic rulers. As she held one for me to take she explained that they were a product of recycled polystyrene resin. In simple terms, plastic "cell paks" used to transport and sell small seedlings such as marigold or tomatoe plants. She said it takes only one flat to make five rulers. The Canadian Polystyrene Recycling Association will even pick up the flats if the customer has no way to deliver them.

Cement garden Buddhas and concrete dragons from New Jersey, hummingbird feeders and nectar from Colorado, bio-medical and scientific garden remedies from New York City, leather crafted tool holders from California and lawn fertilizers, seed and spreaders from Indiana were just some of the 321 places that were represented at the trade show. This number does not include the universities, colleges and other special interest institutions.

Yes, Niagara College's Horticulture Centre participated in this year's trade show. The Horticulture Centre has participated in this event for many years, said Jim Thompson, technician and grounds keeper of the Centre in St. Catharines. He occupied the booth and shared information about the program with other interested parties.

Thomson said he would like to build a more attractive display with varieties of plants and other effects, but he said it gets quite cumbersome to transport the goods in and out of the coliseum.

It was time to leave my glimpse of spring behind and head back to Niagara College for late afternoon classes. Athough Hamilton is only 70 kilometers away, it somehow felt like a world apart.

Many people braved the weather last week to make it to Canada's largest Horticulture Trade Show at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton. The event took place Jan. 18, 19 and 20. The show featured 321 horticultural representatives, and was put on by Landscape Ontario.

Photo by Donna Dolynsky

Niagara Speaks

What do you think of Lorena Bobbitt's acquittal?

"It's OK. I agree with it because she was abused," says Rob Plouffe, 21, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student.

"I have mixed feelings. I do believe the woman was extremely terrorized, but I don't think we'll ever know all the facts," says Niagara College psychology professor Aubry Bissett.

"I really don't care. I don't think it should have reached the media the way it has. I thought it was a joke. I'm sure it's happened before," says Mark Hopley, 34, a first-year Business Administration program student.

"I think it's great. He deserved it because he was a very mean man. I would have put it in the food blender," says Tania Bass, 19, a General College program student.

"I'd hate to be in his shoes now. Poor guy... I can't believe she drove with it. I don't agree with it (the acquittal)," says Jeff Newman, 21, a first-year Business Administration program student.

Niagara Speaks comes from the files of John Bell and Mike Michaud.
It is a forum designed to allow students to express their feelings on various current events.

New harassment policy on its way

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

The first draft of Niagara College's Policy and Practice manual regarding harassment and discrimination was presented to members of College Council Wednesday, Jan. 19.

Carol Boettcher, vice-president Student Life and Human Resources, presented the manual, and emphasized the "draft" nature of it. "I will be bringing the final proposed policy to the February meeting," said Boettcher who will then take the policy to the Board of Governors to be approved. Boettcher said the February draft wouldn't "deviate substantially" from the present draft.

The manual is a response to a directive by Ontario Minister of Education and Training Dave Cooke, said Boettcher. The ministry would like a cohesive harassment and discrimination policy in all public tertiary institutions in the province, she said. Boettcher added that there were usually two or three complaints every semester regarding discrimination or harassment. The college started working on the manual in mid-November.

The present draft covers "harassment, sexual harassment, discrimination and creation of a negative environment or climate."

The document states everyone on any Niagara College campus is covered including "contractors such as those undertaking construction, provision of service or research." Visitors or guests who have no ongoing connection to the college are also covered.

The policy can cover incidents off campus if the incident adversely impacts on a person's work or study performance.

There are both formal and informal resolution processes. "We have started with an informal resolution process and that would be our goal," said Boettcher. "We want to see wherever possible or practical that there be an informal resolution process."

The draft gives college employees and students three specified people to contact if they have a complaint and cannot resolve it with the other party.

The draft's formal complaint procedure involves filling out a complaint form five working days after the conclusion of the informal process. A college-appointed investigator will then decide if the "complaint has merit."

A mediator may then be appointed or an arbitration committee may be formed depending on the prospects for resolution. The arbitration committee will include one person designated by the complainant, one by the respondant and "an impartial chair."

"Within three working days the committee will forward its findings to the president or designate with recommendations for sanctions or redress," states the draft.

Youth help centre opening in St. Catharines

By JOHN SARKO
Staff Writer

An increase in resources will soon be available to St. Catharines' teens in crisis.

The St. Catharines Resource Services for Youth will be opening in April at 127 Church St. in the old St. Catharines Hydro building.

The centre will aid in the co-ordination of government services for teens at risk. "It is a place where kids can go and get help on sight," says John Arnett of St. George's Anglican Church.

The resource centre is the result of St. George's plan to create a community outreach program. After two years of research and study, in co-ordination with the St. Catharines Housing Help Centre, it was determined youth have one of the greatest needs.

"We looked around and one of the needs identified by the Housing Help Centre was a place where youth could come and get some help and some direction in their lives," says Arnett.

The centre will provide services for homeless teenagers primarily between the ages of 16 and 18. This group is at risk because a gap exists in the system and they are not always provided for, says Arnett.

The centre will be user-friendly providing workshops and information for youth, says John Osczypko, executive director of the Housing Help Centre.

About 45 service agencies in St. Catharines have given their full support to the centre. They will make contributions of time. "We're going to have the people there from time to time. The agencies are unanimously behind this," says Arnett.

The centre will be a place where the agencies can go and help the kids who need it, says Arnett. The resource centre will be located in the same building as the Housing Help Centre used by teens who need to find shelter.

Aid offered by the centre will depend on a particular person's needs. "Maybe they just want a cup of coffee and a peer to talk to. It's not a drop-in centre or a place to hang out. It offers help for those who want to help themselves. The thing is to get these kids back on the right track. They are the future of this country," describes Arnett. In the first six months of last year, 500 homeless teens contacted the Housing Help Centre.

As part of their third century celebration St. George's Anglican Church wanted to establish a community outreach program. "Very often community outreach is a one shot deal. We wanted to do something that is lasting and permanent," says Arnett.

One way to achieve this goal is by raising funds privately and keeping government assistance to a minimum. "You cannot rely on the government and we wanted the project to be lasting. Governments change their agendas and you can lose funding if those priorities change.

Keppy's dictionary ready for Niagara College Feb. 28

By CHARLIE KOSCAK
Staff Writer

ERSN. PLA. IBM. SIPS.

What's an acronymically-challenged individual to do? Fortunately, staff, students and faculty of Niagara College will receive help in the abbreviated world of acronyms.

"I would go to meetings and people would be throwing acronyms around, and I had no idea what people were talking about," says Brian Keppy, co-ordinator of General Education, who thought of compiling a list used by the college, industries and governments.

Acronyms are the first letter of each word in a phrase or name. For example, SCUBA stands for Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.

Most of the time Keppy said he had the opportunity to stop people and ask what they were talking about, but in group sessions asking the meaning of an acronym every 30 seconds was impractical.

"You'd let some of these (acronyms) roll over until you would hope after a while you'd clue in to what people were talking about," he says.

Keppy says as far as he knew an acronym dictionary didn't exist so he began compiling a list. Just before the Christmas holidays, he sent a memo asking staff and faculty for acronyms encountered in their jobs here.

He is also looking for acronyms used in industry and government.

The dictionary is still in the planning stages, says Keppy. Plans on what the dictionary will look like, size, and cost to produce it have yet to be ironed out.

The acronyms accumulated to date are typed in an alphabetizing computer program by division secretary Carol Jones.

A rough copy of the dictionary contains more than 380 definitions and more are expected before the compilation goes to print.

Keppy said he plans to organize a format for the dictionary by the end of January and have it ready for distribution before March Break — Feb. 28.

Keppy says he would prefer if the dictionary was distributed for free to anyone who wants a copy, but printing costs may force a nominal charge of a quarter.

The search time saved by the dictionary would offset the manual's cost, he says. People phoning around the college looking for a definition will soon have to look solely in a little booklet for the answers.

Keppy's still accepting acronyms. Fill in the clip-out on this page and leave it in the box on his door, S210D.

Acronym Dictionary Submissions

Name:_____

Phone Number:_____

Acronyms:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please drop off at Brian Keppy's office at Simcoe 210D.

Freelance photographer leads life of world-travel, adventure

By KERI REED
Staff Writer

Photography is a way of life for a 35-year-old St. Catharines resident.

Kevin Argue spoke to about 30 students from the second-year Journalism-Print program on his experiences as a freelance photographer on Jan. 21.

"I had to find and create my own work."

Argue has taken photos for the Welland Tribune, the Hamilton Spectator, the New York Times and the picture agency Gamma Liaison based in New York City. He has been the Niagara Region photographer for the Toronto Star since 1988.

'The best part of the job is being able to travel,' Kevin Argue.

Argue, who attended Sheridan College in Oakville for photography, said when wedding photography became boring, he moved on to advertising, then public relations.

Still unhappy with his career, Argue turned to freelance photography.

"The best part of the job is being able to travel all over the world," Argue told the class.

His work took him to Iraq during the Gulf War, Europe, Cuba, Ireland, Great Britain and Germany.

For Gamma Liaison, Argue photographs celebrities such as Ben Johnson, Princess Diana, and George Bush. For the past year, Argue has been covering the Karla Homolka trial for The Toronto Star. He took the first published photo of Homolka.

Argue is unable to receive any photography awards such as the National Newspaper Award, because they are not given to freelance photographers.

"I'm just happy that I'm able to create work."

Freelance photographer Kevin Argue shows Journalism-Print students Tom Brank and John Bell, left, and centre, some of the lenses that allowed him to take his best photos.

Photo by Al Gilday

SPORTS

Kick-off, kick-back: it's Super Bowl time

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

It's back.

Yes, that annual tradition in which the gladiators of the gridiron engage in a three-hour battle to determine who is the best team in professional football. To most it is known as the Super Bowl. To other, more mature fans, it is known as the Vince Lombardi Cup. I myself refer to it as "that day I usually throw up."

Every year on this hallowed Sunday, men, and occassionally a few women, go to Super Bowl parties to ingest sickening amounts of beer and food and scream themselves hoarse.

Attending and enjoying a Super Bowl party is basically easy. To throw a successful Super Bowl party is not. There is an art to pulling off a great 'Bowl Bash,' and if you have ever thrown an unsuccessful one you know it can be both socially and physically dangerous.

Although there is no perfect formula, there are a few basic staples that must be provided. Among these neccessities are: a television (color with good reception, as many a wannabe host has been thrashed within an inch of their lives as snow crackled on the set in the background), food (and lots of it), beer (and lots of it). These three ingredients alone do not a great Super Bowl party make. A good host must be inventive.

Start the party off right by handing out name tags at the door. Leave the tags blank and have friends label each other. This is a failsafe ploy for hilarious hijinx. As the host, make sure you trade tags with a good friend or you may end up labeled as 'THAT DINK WHO MADE UP THIS CRAPPY NAME TAG GAME'.

Another sure fire winner is the Screaming Joe game. The host replays the infamous Joe Theisman broken leg play, while guests snap breadsticks and try their best blood-curddling scream. Marks are awarded for decible level and original facial contortions.

At half-time guests should be encouraged to go outside and join in an amicable game of snow football. Divide teams by the professional team of which each guest is rooting. Dallas fans on one side, Buffalo fans on the other. If it happens the teams are lopsided, all the better. Guests may soon find out a leg breaking sounds more like a young poplar snapping than a breadstick, and real screams are much more chilling than any pretend ones.

The food served should be both fun and tasty. A good host will provide a punch and hor-d'oeuvres along with the main meal. Beer makes a terrific punch, just add a can of peaches. Chewing gum is not only tasty as a snack but if arranged properly can be visually stimulating. For the main meal a good host will usually stick with the basic fried meat platter. This consists of various fried meats on a platter. An after dinner cocktail can be nice if the situation permits. Beer in really small glasses usually wows the crowd.

Following these tips will not ensure a fun Super Bowl party. Adhering to one simple philosophy will. Go to someone else's party. Why dirty your house and spend your money, when you can break someone else's stuff? Enjoy the game.

By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

Well, well, well.

For a guy they all said knew nothing about football, I'd say my predictions for last Sunday were pretty good. My two for two record puts me miles ahead of those Vegas wannabes, so in celebration of my success I've returned for a quarter-by-quarter analysis of this Sunday's Super Bowl. This time I encourage you to wager your monies using my professional advice.

The Game: Buffalo versus Dallas in Atlanta, Ga.

Like I said last week, this one will be a great game, with the Bills ending up on top by 10 points. I'm not so sure that Levy will be the victim of the Cowboys' cruel "replace the Gatorade with boling water" trick, but I am sure of the Bills' imminent success.

Coin Toss: Dallas wins, chooses to receive.

In the first quater, a total of 17 points will be scored. Dallas and Buffalo will exchange touchdowns. Buffalo will take the extra three with a late field goal. Don't look for much action here, as the teams will feel out each other and play some cautious ball.

In the second quarter, look for Buffalo to make a key interception or fumble recovery resulting in the tying touchdown. Jim Kelly's hurry-up offense will be too much for Dallas this quarter, resulting in a 14-point quarter for the Bills and a 10-pointer for the Cowboys.

Halftime Score: Bills 24 Cowboys 17

Halftime Show: Two thumbs down.

In the third quarter, look for Buffalo to score a quick touchdown. This will give Dallas the boot in the rear they need to retaliate with 10 straight points. Look for a key injury to Buffalo this quarter and a late Bills' field goal. Dallas will still be four points behind going into the fourth.

The fourth quarter will be a boring, defensive one where the Bills will take two field goals. The celebrations will be loud and long-awaited, as Buffalo citizens will be honking the horns and playing those irritating, poorly-recorded Bills cover songs.

Final Score: Bills 37 Cowboys 27

When you're sitting in front of the TV on Sunday watching the game, just remember where you heard it from. And when you're collecting your winnings from family and friends, just remember whose advice you took.

Good luck with your wagers!

Hockey team fights for play-off spot

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights hockey team tied Lindsay's Sir Sandford Fleming Auks 5-5 on Jan. 20.

"They scored with a minute and 23 seconds to go in the third to tie the game," said Knights' coach Fred Bassi.

Niagara opened the scoring, Fleming tied it and the teams kept trading goals until the game ended at 5-5, he said.

Dave Crane scored two goals and Mike Emond, Pat Skuta and Jason Buote had singles for the Knights.

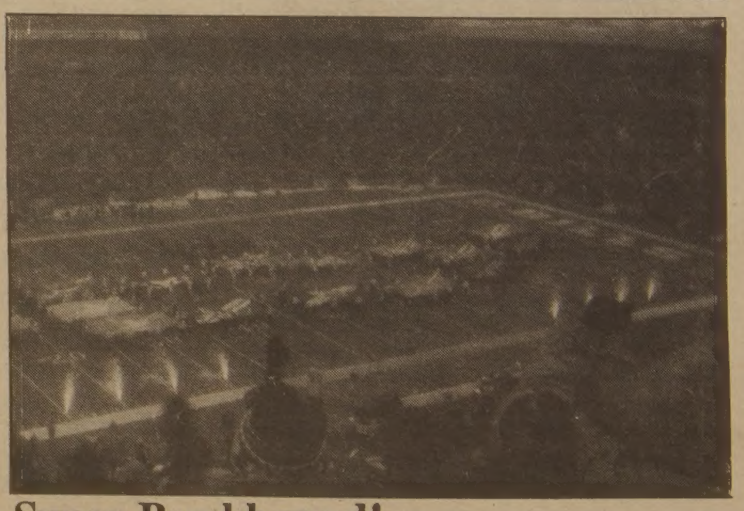
"I thought we played pretty well," said Bassi. "I thought the third game in a row in less than a week was pretty tough on the guys. They went out there and they skated hard. Lindsay are good on their home ice. All five points they have this year they earned on home ice," he said.

It was the Knights third road game without a loss and moves them into a tie for third place in the Costello division with Sudbury's Cambrian College.

The Knights have 10 points, a 4-3-2 record and have one game in hand against Cambrian for the third and final playoff spot in the division.

"We've got to get the jump on Cambrian and make them come after us," said Bassi.

The Knights play two games this weekend at the Welland Arena. On Friday at 7:30 p.m. they play Ottawa's Algonquin College and on Saturday at 8 p.m. they play Peterborough's Sir Sandford Fleming.



Super Bowl bound!

Over 75,000 football fans cheered madly as the Buffalo Bills flag was unrolled during the halftime show at Rich Stadium Sunday. The show featured Gladys Knight and was held during the AFC Championship game where Buffalo defeated the Kansas City Chiefs 30-13. **Photo by Robin Green**

Volleyball Knights not up to par

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights men's volleyball team "got in a hole they couldn't get out of" against Georgian College last Friday, said coach John Sarkis.

The Knights lost three straight games to Georgian in their Jan. 21 match. "We didn't play our best," said Sarkis.

The Knights, who were "pumped up" for the game, found themselves deflated when Georgian showed up an hour late. The double warm up did not bode well with the team and they found themselves somewhat flat going into the first game, said Sarkis.

The men lost a lopsided first game 15-7, but rallied together to make the next one a more respectable loss at 15-13. The final game was another 15-13 nailbiter with the Knights again coming out on the losing end.

There were some bright spots in the match, with strong performances coming from starters Jim Konard and Brian Dekker. Konard came through with 13 kills in the match and Dekker helped out with five kills of his own and his usual rock solid defence.

The coach said his team "did not play up to par" and that "if you don't have six players playing at all times you simply are not going to win."

The Knights take their 7-3 record to Algonquin College in Ottawa for a tournament on Friday, Feb. 4.

Niagara student aces the competition

By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

A Niagara College student aced the competition at a recent badminton tournament in Hamilton by winning it.

Sean Ellis, 25, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student, won the nine-team invitational tournament at Mohawk College Jan. 15. Ellis finished first in a field of 24 players in the men's singles competition.

In mixed doubles, the Niagara College team of Ellis and Tara Parliament made it to the quarter-finals, while Tara Lochhead and Chris Richardson lost the consolation finals.

The team's next tournament is Jan. 28 at Centennial College in Toronto.

Meningitis victim fondly remembered

By ROBIN GREEN
Staff Writer

Tragedy struck Niagara College last week when 20-year-old Patricia Birnie, a student working towards an early childhood education diploma, died of meningitis.

Birnie, a Niagara-on-the-Lake resident, began feeling ill on Saturday, Jan. 15 and died of the disease just two days later.

At West Park Secondary in St.Catharines, where Birnie attended high school, she is remembered fondly by staff as someone who genuinely cared for people.

Kay Holly, a West Park guidance counsellor, described the death of this young student as a "real tragedy," and remembered how Birnie cared for children and was looking forward to a career of working with them.

Moira Gallant, program manager for communicable disease control at the Niagara Region's health services department, said students at Niagara College have absolutely no reason to fear they may have contracted the disease from Birnie before she died. Every person who had close enough contact with her to be at risk of contracting the disease has been contacted and treated. Since the incubation period for meningitis is between two and 10 days, any person who was at risk of contracting the disease from Birnie and was not treated would have already become ill.

Gallant said meningitis is spread through secretions of the nose and throat from an infected person. This disease can only be contracted through very close contact, such as sharing food, drinks, cigarettes or a toothbrush with an infected person. Meningitis is not a common disease, and is not always fatal. In 1993, there were eight reported cases of meningitis, with only one fatality. Birnie's case is the first reported and first fatality from the disease in 1994.

Symptoms of meningitis include a sudden onset of fever, intense headache, nausea, a stiff neck, fatigue and a petechial (pinkish/bluish) rash. Any person experiencing these symptoms should go to the hospital right away to be admitted and receive treatment. People in close contact with an infected person should also go to the hospital to receive a preventative treatment.

In order to prevent contracting meningitis, practise good personal hygiene, always wash your hands, do not share food, drinks, lipstick, etc., and see your doctor immediately if you feel any of the symptoms that go along with meningitis.

Joint venture begins

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

Niagara College has joined with Yue Yang University to "introduce entrepreneurial spirit" in China.

Dr. Gordon Chen, a professor of industrial electronics at Niagara, recently travelled to China to share technology.

With the help of Niagara College's Canada/China College Linkage Program, Niagara has joined with Yue Yang University to bring technology to Chinese universities and industries. The program's goal is to bring technology Canada has had for decades to China's developing industries.

Chen said before 1985 China had universities but no colleges. But when Canada's economy was growing, China's workforce was becoming "kind of top heavy" with university graduates, he said.

He said university grads were being "under utilized" because of jobs that required only college level skills. Because of this, the Chinese government set up 114 vocational universities, which Chen said are similar to our own colleges.

Chen went in September to Yue Yang University, which is located in Yue Yang City. With him he brought eight programmable logic controllers (PLCs), over 100 reference books and 20 years of Western know-how. PLCs are the basic technology behind industrial robotics, he said. PLCs allow workers to program the movements of robots in industries such as auto manufacturing.

While in China, Chen helped to set up a PLC lab at Yue Yang University. "China will need this technology," he said. "It (the PLC lab) will provide some leadership in industrial technology."

Chen said he hopes the teachers at Yue Yang will learn the PLC technology so they can teach it to students and industry. Like Niagara College, Yue Yang University will be teaching workers from local industries how to use this 'new' technology. Niagara has been working local industries since the late 1970s, when it first got its PLC equipment, he said.

Before returning to Canada in December, Chen co-authored two papers to give Yue Yang's PLC lab "a little bit of reputation," he said.

He said Niagara College and Yue Yang University are the first colleges in Canada or China to participate in this type of program. "Our linkage has been very fruitful," said Chen.

Chen said he would like to visit the new PLC lab to see how it's progressing, but funding for the program has run out.

Canadian women compete at Winter Olympics

By LEANN MCHUTCHION
Staff Writer

This is the second in a series of three articles on the Canadian women athletes who will be competing in the 1994 Olympic Winter games.

With all of the controversy surrounding the figure skating world following the brutal attack on American figure skater Nancy Kerrigan the spotlight will remain on the sport throughout the 1994 Olympic Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway this February.

Three time Canadian figure skating champion Josee Chouinard, 24, who is unveiling two new programs this season said "It's extremely important to have a clean program in competition so this year's is a little less difficult technically, I'm really concentrating on the look," in a press release from the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sports and Physical Acitivity (CAAWS).

Chouinard left Montreal this year to train for a chance at the Olympics. This year she got a chance to work with coach Louis Strong and choreographer Sandra Bezic, who together have trained with Kurt Browning and Chouinard's rival Karen Preston.

"I knew I was getting into a situation which could have been difficult with Karen there, but actually it's all turned out for the best. There are days when I don't feel like training and I see Karen on the ice training very hard. So that really motivates me, and I'm sure the situation is the same for her. And seeing Kurt Browning train every day is another source of motivation," said Chouinard in the CAAWS press release.

'The pressure of the Olympics is crushing' - Isabelle Brasseur

Pair World Champion Isabelle Brasseur and her partner Lloyd Eisler face an uphill battle going into this years Olympics as they must face Russian pair Ekaterina Gordeeva and Sergi Grinkov, and Natalia Mishkuteniok and Arthur Dmitriev.

Scrapping their short program, after it was ill-received at a pre-Olympic competition, the duo was forced to miss an opportunity to test the competition at a major event in Paris, France.

"The pressure at the Olympics is crushing; there is nothing like it," said Brasseur.

She received an honor this past year after fans in her hometown of St-Jean, Que., renamed the local arena the Colisee Isabelle Brasseur.

Speed skating is another ice event that will send three Canadian women to Lillehammer.

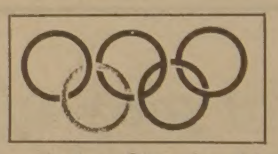
Susan Auch, 27, is "the fastest self-propelled female athlete in Canadian sporting history," according to the Canadian Olympic Association.

Auch's specialty is the 500m long track speed skate. In 1992, at the Games in Albertville, France, Auch placed "a very respectable sixth," in the 500m, says the CAAWS.

"I certainly have a better shot at the medal this year than I did in Albertville. I just have to time everything right so that I have the best race of my career at Lillehammer," said Auch.

Two short track speed skaters will also be competing in this year's Olympics.

Nathalie Lambert will be representing Canada in the 500m, 1,000m, and 3,000m relay at this year's Games.



"I'm not expecting to win three Olympic gold medals," said Lambert who won a relay gold medal in Albertville. "My goal is for us to repeat as the Olympic relay champions and add another medal for myself."

Lambert says the thrill of competition is spiced this year by the return, after a one year absence, of teammate and decade long rival Sylvie Daigle.

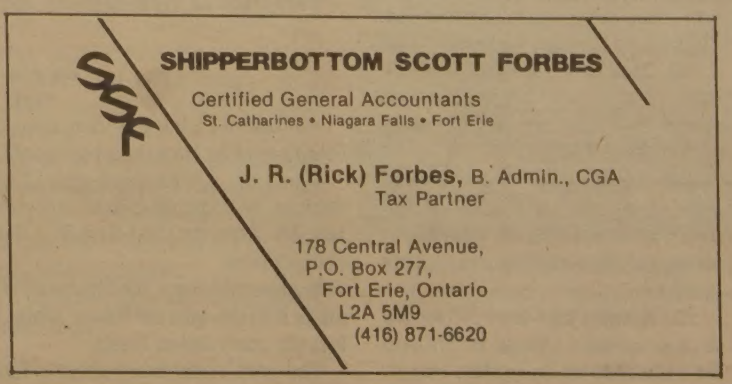
Daigle is a five-time world champion and a five-time Olympian. She retired after the 1992 Albertville Games, but will return to take one more shot at the medal in Lillehammer.

"I feel like I didn't finish my career properly," said Daigle, "for sure the Olympics is one of the reasons I returned. But you also have to have the drive inside. I still feel I want to skate and do well."

"Daigle insists that she'll retire once and for all when this season ends," the CAAWS reports.

The 1994 Lillehammer Olympic's opening ceremonies are scheduled to be held Feb. 12 with the competition being held the following day.

The stories of Canadian women of the Olympic Winter Games at Lillehammer will conclude in the *Niagara News* next week focusing on Canadian Luge and Biathlon competitors.



Alzheimer

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Alzheimer Disease

Alzheimer Disease is a disorder of the brain causing loss of memory and serious mental deterioration over a period of two to twenty years. It is estimated that this disease affects 300,000 middle-aged and older Canadians. At present there is no known cause or cure.

Alzheimer Disease is not a normal part of aging; it is a progressive, degenerative illness. It is not a psychological or emotional disorder.

Symptoms

At first the person with Alzheimer Disease exhibits only minor and almost imperceptible symptoms that are often attributed to other problems or illnesses.

Recent memory, concentration, judgement, and reasoning will be impaired. There may be changes in personality, mood, and behaviour. Altered perceptual abilities and loss of co-ordination may result in changes in gait with slow, shuffling steps and stooped posture, inability to perform daily tasks, rigidity, problems with balance.

Progressive difficulty in communication may result in continuous repetition of words, gesture, or questions; the person may use the wrong words or lose track of thought in mid-sentence.

Dressing and selecting appropriate clothing may become problems; the person may refuse to perform normal hygienic practices such as bathing, oral hygiene, shaving, and grooming. Altered tolerance to stress and adverse reactions to medications may develop; there may be an increased susceptibility to accidents and infections. In later stages, the person may become bladder and bowel incontinent.

Concealed Memory Loss

Alzheimer patients can become skilled at hiding their declining abilities and forgetfulness. Coping mechanisms develop to conceal the impairment; anger, paranoia, and withdrawal from friends and family may result. This is very distressing for everyone. Family members and professionals may help the patient by showing them how to remain as independent as possible.

Diagnosis

It is important for persons with these symptoms to be diagnosed by a family physician and then by a neurologist. Curable illnesses may be mistaken for Alzheimer Disease.

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Casey Bones performs despite shaky start

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Hypnotist Casey Bones' performance in the main cafeteria last Thursday got off to a shaky start in front of a small audience when the first words he uttered were "Sorry to interrupt your eating."

Voices could be heard asking "Who's he, what's this for and what's going on?"

Bones was considering canceling and rebooking at a later date because his whole show is based on audience participation. Bones said he toured the halls of Niagara College and couldn't find any word promoting his visit. He couldn't even find a posting in the room he was playing.

After pleading for volunteers the show got under way. In less than 10 minutes of concentrating and deep breathing, students were under Bones' spell.

The hypnotized were put in various comedic situations. They struggled to maintain a hold on 125-pound, solid-gold bowling balls. They spent a visit at a beachside resort that misplaced reservations and where they soaked up sun, went powerboating, fled the teeth of Jaws and repeatedly got hit in the head by a frisbee.

The students jockeyed horses, played their favorite instruments, won the Toronto Blue Jays another World Series championship with a homer in the bottom of the ninth and became intoxicated with a gorgeous member of the opposite sex who wasn't all that attractive when seen in the morning after a night of passion.

It was clear that first-year students Rob Crumb (Broadcast/Radio and Television) and Jody Hutton (Law and Security Administration) stole the show, responding to suggestions most physically. General College student Joe Privett was also a crowd favorite probably because no matter what he did his face was always on the stage floor.

Later in the show — by this time a large crowd had gathered —students were given a chance to speak their mind, while still under hypnosis.

First-year general college student Mike Decott was convinced his name was Chico. Each time he made this clarification, Ronni Tufford, a second-year Human Relations program student, would feel someone pinch her. First-year LASA student Tamara Giovinazzo preached on how chewing gum causes diabetes.

Bones' performance concluded by suggesting to male students when they hear music they will realize they were in an annual strip-off competition — some were more eager to perform than others.

Volunteers returned to their seats and demanded the show start, complaining they had classes to attend and wanted their $10 worth — the real show was free.

Performing hypnotism is Bones' full-time job, but said when gathered at a social setting he likes to tell people he macrames large appliance tea cozies for a living. This may sound odd, but Bones said he gets the same reaction when he discloses his real occupation. Doing voice-overs for martial arts movies and waking up subway sleepers are his other full-time jobs.

His talent is used primarily for entertainment purposes but Bones said he has helped people quit smoking and lose weight.

Bones, 38, said he started performing about 12 years ago.

A dejected vice-president social Jeremy Lowe (left) looks out to a sparse audience while hypnotist Casey Bones pleads for volunteers to aid in his show.

Photo by Greg Furminger

Bones was considering cancelling and rebooking at a later date...

Working as a booking agent, Bones attended entertainment conventions where he discussed hypnotism with other entertainers. There were only about 20 or 30 hypnotist performers in the world when Bones decided to join the ranks and give himself an 85 per cent raise.. His fee for performing at Niagara was $1,150, but he said cost varies depending on size of venue, travel expenses and past appearances.

Bones studied at the University of Texas and later took psychology courses in California.

"After six or seven shows everything started to fall into place," he said, adding, practice is a better learning tool than studying in this profession.

Hypnosis will not work on people who carry a conviction that they can't be hypnotized on stage, said Bones. People must also be able to concentrate and be intelligent. "That's probably why it works so well at schools," he said.

Bones said his show is "tailor-made for schools" and that schools book his type of entertainment more than any other type of attraction. The Torontonian performs across Canada and pays occasional visits to "some pockets" of the United States and cruise ships.

Bones said his mass hypnosis on stage takes less time than single-person hypnosis because volunteers understand his appearance is short-lived, making them more willing to participate. Bones said during his performances about 10 to 15 per cent of volunteers may be faking, but prefers not to centre them out while maintaining they keep a distance from those hypnotized. Single-person hypnosis may require four or five visits to the hypnotist in order to gain trust.

While under hypnosis, people experience the same sensation they have when dreaming. Images are created by the whims and impulses of the subconscious mind, which doesn't have the same critical analysis of the conscious mind. The subconscious mind only remembers the tail end of dream, Bones said.

Bones said some of his hypnotized volunteers have surprised them with their actions.

"I've had people experience hunger and had someone bite my leg." Others have dived off stage believing they were abandoning ship.

His stage is surrounded by tumbling mats and has people monitoring the stage to prevent injuries to those who may fall.

"I've got a really good safety record," said Bones. "It's basically flawless."

After the show, Bones said he was pleased the audience had grown, but said once again that he was disappointed in the slow start. Had there been more students to volunteer, he was going to try out new material.

The Club caters to a variety of tastes

By TOM BRANK
Staff Writer

There's a new club in town and Brian Daniels couldn't be happier.

Daniels, and partner Chris Muelli are owners of The Club, a new St. Catharines night spot with a local flavor of entertainment.

The Club is about giving Niagara artists a place to play as well as giving established artists from out of town a venue to perform, said Daniels. Both members of Performing Artists Niagara (PAN), Daniels and Muelli, became interested in opening an entertainment bar featuring artists from PAN, amateur musicians, and professional musicians in Niagara.

"PAN needed a centralized place, a kind of clubhouse where they could develop their own skills and talents," said Daniels.

David Sarafino, vice-president of PAN, said he has hopes the community will make the night club a success.

"Niagara has a lot of talent," said Sarafino. "We want to find the young talent and give them a place to perform."

The Club is trying to open the doors to all types of music and age groups, he said.

Both Daniels and Sarafino believe The Club is an ideal place for young artists to get together and gain the practical experience artists look for.

"We're really promoting the open mic concept, that musicians and performers can come down here and network with each other," said Sarafino.

The Club, located in downtown St. Catharines, is pushing to be "particularly unique" than the average city night spot, he said.

During The Club's eight-day grand opening in early January, entertainment included folk and fiddle music, rhythm and blues, comedy night, rock and roll and big band swing.

"We're trying to reach out to the community and have a little bit of everything," Sarafino said.

Daniels and Sarafino said they look forward to bringing Niagara worthwhile entertainment from out of town. They both agree St. Catharines would make a good midway point for artists to perform between major cities like Toronto and Buffalo.

"I want to bring some culture back to this area," said Daniels.

This Friday night, The Club presents rhythm and blues with The Ants, and Saturday night features rock and roll with the Mojos.

For more information on The Club and upcoming events call 684-ARTS.

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Zappa's genius lives on

By JENN SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

It was a good day when Frank Zappa died. There was a buzz in the air that put a bounce in my steps and a perma-smile on my face.

It wasn't the usual hum of sympathetic blurbs and ayatollah-of-rock 'n' rolla' trivia which caused my bliss. Instead, people were slamming Zappa for his bad taste in birth names. (I suppose the death of a rock icon is difficult for the press to handle when the departure involves something other than a drug overdose or freak accident).

As the conversation swelled, so did my grin. While classmates discussed the psychological repercussions of giving children phonetically-incorrect names, all I could think about was Suzi Creamcheese, Wowie Zowie and the Illinois Enema Bandit.

Zappa was a genius. Joining the Soul Giants in the mid-1960s, he destroyed conventional jazz with his avant-garde rock. Forming the ever popular Mothers of Invention, he dared to slam political and musical untouchables such as hippies and (God forbid) the Beatles. He operated one of the first independent studios in Los Angeles. His collaboration with manager Herb Cohen, Straight and Bizarre label (1969), helped to produce Captain Beefheart and Tim Buckley.

Where would the music realm be if Zappa hadn't dared to ask past-president of the Parents' Music Resource Centre and censorship advocate, Tipper Gore, if masturbation was a crime? Using his creative voice for more than listening pleasure, Zappa reassured artists' that freedom of speech is still the most fundamental value of society.

Well, slam him all you want because that's what Zappa would have wanted. No doubt he's still sitting at St. Peter's Gate arguing structural changes or is inside making fun of Jim Morrison.

I, and all German-made appliances, will miss you Frank... R.I.P.

Internet linking Niagara College to the world

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

Internet. To many this may sound like the name of a company from a late-night TV movie. To others Internet means something else - the future.

Internet is a world-wide computer network linking an estimated 25 million users in over 60 countries. For the past year, Niagara College faculty have been 'surfing the Net' to find ways of introducing the classroom to the world.

Internet is "an unsupervised network that connects separate nets," said John Clark, a professor of computer engineering technology at Niagara. He said Internet is "like a web," with information travelling from available computer to available computer until it reaches its destination.

Although Niagara College has been on line with Internet for about a year, most students won't have access to it until at least next year. Elizabeth Weldon, director of Niagara's M.I.S. (Management Information Services), is in charge of the team responsible for linking Niagara College to the Net, as it is called in Cyberspace. She said the Net will be available "wherever it's approriate."

Presently, only those students enrolled in technology programs, and staff members who have attended a training session have access to the Net, said Clark. The three-hour training session took place over the recent Winter Break, and 120 staff members attended, said Weldon. Next year, all staff and students may be learning how to "surf the Net," she said.

For those of you wondering how this "network of networks," as most people describe it, can help you, think about this: Internet allows the user to search 40,000 smaller networks for any kind of information. Users can send electronic mail to anyone with access to the Net. You can also download any of the thousands of-software programs available, said a recent Maclean's magazine article.

For technology students, said Clark, skills in using Internet to send mail will be "a real important feature" in the future. Weldon said Internet can also be beneficial for teachers because they can develop their curriculums with help from colleagues around the world.

Laura Van Clieaf, a network support specialist at M.I.S., said Internet can be a "great marketing tool." By listing program outlines on a 'Gopher,' Niagara College could advertise to anyone using the Net, she said. A 'Gopher' is a list of options available to the user. Gophers ease congestion on smaller networks by finding out what kind of information the user wants and directing that user to the proper network.

Internet at Niagara College is run through three VAX computers, which are the key to Niagara's computer network. Through the VAXs Niagara is linked to Brock University in St. Catharines. Brock is in turn hooked up to the University of Toronto, which is responsible for keeping Ontario's link to Internet, ONET, functioning, said Van Clieaf.

Due to the nature of Internet, access cannot be limited and censorship is impossible. If a piece of information is missing from a file, the file is simply re-sent until it finds its way through, said Weldon.

Needle exchange 'a health issue'

By SALLY BOND
Staff Writer

The Niagara Region is home to a program aimed at reducing the AIDS risk for IV drug users.

Street Works, which is part of AIDS Niagara though funded by the provincial goverment, began last April following a three-year study and is led by team leaders Jim McKinnon and Colin Willoughby.

Through needle exchanges, bleach kit distribution, and health care education, McKinnon said the program hopes to curb the spread of infectious diseases, including the AIDS virus, tetanus, and hepatitis.

During December, Street Works handed out 2,715 clean needles, received 1,963 dirty needles, and distributed 40 bleach kits and 1,366 condoms, reaching 304 Niagara area residents.

The bleach kits, which include small bottles of bleach, sterile water, alcohol swabs, and filtres, help to minimize the spread of the HIV virus although McKinnon said it does not guarantee the virus is destroyed.

All needles that are collected are disposed of by a professional medical waste disposal company.

Client contact is achieved, in part, by leaving matchbooks and cards with the Street Works phone number in bars, hotels, and motels across the region.

"We'll meet people anywhere," said McKinnon, and all encounters remain confidential. "We don't ask names."

McKinnon said drug users often feel too intimidated to ask for bleach kits or needles from pharmacists. Streetworks, however, remains "non-judgmental."

"We're not looking at it as a moral issue. We're looking at it as a health issue," agreed Willoughby.

While Street Works has information regarding addicton help, it is only provided when clients request it.

Jennifer Patrick, executive director for AIDS Niagara, explained "We concentrate on relationship building so we can build trust."

Many clients will go for months, Patrick said, until they feel comfortable enough to ask for information.

While other needle exchange programs do give needles to diabetics, Patrick said Street Works does not.

"We are still very much building the service," she said, and will consider such an exchange in the future.

Street Works is located at 50 William St. in St. Catharines. McKinnon and Willoughby can be contacted by phone at 984-8684.

Bleach kits are available at the health services office in Lundy 20 at the college's Welland Campus.

HOP INTO THE SAC

(Student Administrative Council)
THIS WEEK'S COMING EVENTS:

• Sports •
Basketball:
Fanshawe,
Jan. 28 @ 7:30 p.m.
Mohawk,
Feb. 3 @ 7p.m.
Hockey:
Algonquin, Jan. 28
Fleming, Jan. 29

• Bus Trips •
Feb. 18
Buffalo Sabres
vs.
Florida Panthers
Entertainment
Mike Woods
Thursday, Feb. 3
from 1-3 p.m. in
After Hours

WINTERCOURSE '94
FEBRUARY 14 -18
1st PRIZE-$200 **CASH**, 2nd PRIZE-$75 **CASH**, 3rd PRIZE-$50 **CASH**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Scavenger Hunt Snow Pitch	Blind Volleyball Earthball	Sumo Wrestling	Snow Football Air Hockey	Air Band

SIGN UP IN THE SAC OFFICE
SAC...WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

Big Brothers hope to raise $10,000

By CHRIS RUSSO
Staff Writer

On your marks. Get set. Bowl!

On Feb. 5, 1994, the Big Brothers of South Niagara are holding their annual Bowl for Millions fundraiser at Eastside Lanes and Bowl O Rama here in Welland.

Executive Director Gregory Whelan said he hopes to achieve their goal of $10,000. "It's never been a big money raiser for the agency," he said, but is hopeful they can exceed last years net profit of $5,400.

"We are very appreciative" of the Niagara College students, he said, who are "by far the biggest contributers."

Last year's winner of the Adult Top Money Earner was Melissa Odding, a first-year Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) program student, who raised about $2,000 for the Bowl for Millions campaign.

The ERSN students have been involved with the Big Brothers Association for about 10 years said Elvira Lucas, who has been the program co-ordinator for about 20 years. Part of the course requirement is to "provide a certain amount of community service work," she said. "It's(Bowl for Millions) an opportunity to bring spouses and friends...becoming a family event."

Jeanne DesLaurieirs and Lesia Aucoin are the two first-year ERSN students who are involved with this year's campaign. "We decided to take it one step further this year," said DesLaurieirs, "and raise more money."

A booth was set up in front of the Learning Resource Centre on Wednesday and Thursday of this week in an effort to "canvass students for donations," said DesLaurieirs. If you happened to have missed the booth on either day, pledge sheets are available on the table inside Simcoe 103.

"We're challenging any other courses to get involved and raise money," said DesLaurieirs.

"It would be nice for it to be a Niagara College fundraiser," said Aucoin, adding that the usual association is "the ERSN students from Niagara."

For more information, call the Big Brothers office at (905)735-0570 or
contact Elvira Lucas in S103.

French colleges set to open in Ontario in 1995

By JILLIAN WATSON
Staff Writer

Francophones in Ontario will be able to pursue a college education in French with the opening of two French colleges in September 1995.

Last June the former federal secretary of state Monique Landry announced the signing of an agreement with Ontario to create a network of French-language colleges in Ontario.

In a July 9 announcement, the federal government said it would contribute only $30 million, withdrawing from its $50.5-million commitment to the establishment of two new colleges in northern and southern Ontario and completion of La Cite Collegiale in Ottawa.

In spite of the smaller contribution of the federal government, Ontario Minister of Education and Training David Cooke said, in a press release, the province is giving $120.7 million to French-language colleges so quality programs and services aren't sacrificed.

Although "disappointed" in federal government cutbacks, Anne Audet-Giroux, manager of French Language Services at Niagara College, said she is pleased with the advances made in minority language training and education.

"At least we'll finally have colleges that will answer the needs of francophone students who are obviously underprivileged," she said. "They have as much right to study in their mother tongue as anglophones."

The advent of a French college in the central southwestern region of Ontario was foreseen in 1989 when a feasibility study predicted 1,000 francophone students would be served.

The Bourdeau Commission was established to determine the best way to offer postsecondary French education in the province.

Niagara College's Board of Governors submitted a brief to the commission in support of a new French language college.

Giroux, who prepared the brief, said francophones are so far spread geographically there is a need to reach these particular people.

The Board of Governors will explore alternative modes of delivery to ensure francophones throughout the province "receive equitable access in the area of program delivery," she said.

Francophones in southern Ontario, including Hamilton, the Niagara Peninsula, Barrie, Midland, Penetanguishene, Sarnia, London, Windsor, and Metro Toronto, will be accommodated by a college in central southwestern Ontario.

A college in northern Ontario will provide French programs now offered at Northern College in South Porcupine, Cambrian College in Sudbury, and Canadore in North Bay.

Since 75 per cent of French students in the north study at Cambrian, the main campus will be in the Sudbury area. The names of both colleges and the location of the college in central southwestern Ontario have yet to be decided.

La Cite Collegiale, which opened in Ottawa three years ago, offers French programs previously offered by Algonquin College in Ottawa and St. Lawrence College in Brockville.

With campuses in Ottawa, Cornwall, and Oxbory, La Cite accommodates the francophone population in eastern Ontario.

Audet-Giroux, student join French college board

By JILLIAN WATSON
Staff Writer

Niagara College's manager of French Language Services Anne Audet-Giroux and first-year Early Childhood Education student Tianna Turenne have been appointed to the Board of Governors establishing a French language college in central southwestern Ontario.

Both were named internal members after their peers within the francophone community submitted their names to the Ontario Council of Regents last fall.

Audet-Giroux, who will represent administration, and Turenne, who will represent students, will serve on the board until 1995.

The board has formed four committees. One committee is responsible for selecting the administration site and deciding if there will be delivery of programs on site.

Audet-Giroux, 58, who sat on the Niagara College Board of Governors for about six years, is a member of this committee and facilitator of program development.

A second committee was created to develop a mission statement, general policies, and programs. Meanwhile, a public relations committee will be responsible for publicity, marketting and financial services.

Another committee will prepare the presidential search and research staff needs.

Third SAC president this year

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Former vice-president athletics Frank Keltos is Student Administrative Council's third president this year after an executive decision Tuesday removed Cris Margeson from the top post.

Keltos, along with newly appointed executive vice-president Trevor Obee, is left to pick up the pieces after SAC lost four members because of their academic status. Keltos is this year's only original SAC member to remain on council.

Margeson said he was dismissed because he failed to maintain a 65 per cent average necessary to remain on SAC. His term as president lasted 25 days.

Kristen Sorensen resigned Jan. 1. On Tuesday, Margeson retracted a previous statement saying, that in fact, SAC did ask for Sorensen's resignation. Initial announcements stated she was not asked to leave and that Sorensen submitted her resignation based on poor grades and lack of communication with the council.

"Hopefully, I can do the job well as president and help who takes over athletics," said Keltos. He said he feels he's the most qualified to be president. "Trevor and I have a lot to look after for the next three months."

Keltos said remaining SAC members will investigate the possibility of appointing past SAC members and runners up from previous elections. A byelection will not be held based on the urgency to fill positions and campaigning time guidelines set out in the SAC constitution, he said. Vacancies are expected to be filled this afternoon during a meeting with the college's board of directors.

Keltos said he believed students will have mixed feelings about the SAC shakeup.

"The students that care will be saying, 'Oh my God, look at this council,'" he said, adding those who don't care about SAC will respond with a sarcastic laugh.

Obee said Tuesday's meeting resulted in the cancellation of SAC's open-mic coffee house, which is rescheduled to commence Tuesday, Feb. 15.

All other upcoming SAC events, including WinterCourse, will proceed as scheduled, said Keltos.

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$2.99	**$2.89**	**$2.89**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Chili, Toast, Medium Pop	Soup, Sandwich, Medium Pop
$2.89	**$2.99**

VERSA-Main Cafeteria Only